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APPLICANT: Nicholas F. Franano

U.S.S.N.: 09/669,051

Art Unit: 1651

FILED: September 24, 2000

Examiner: K. Srivastava

FOR: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR OPENING OBSTRUCTED BIOLOGICAL CONDUITS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 23, 2002.

By: Carren L. Munde
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SEARCH REPORT INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(SUBMISSION AFTER FILING OF AN APPLICATION
BUT BEFORE FINAL REJECTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
BOX IDS

Date: January 23, 2002

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. **LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION**

The patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. **COPIES**

- a. X Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- b. Each of the patents, publications or other information listed on the attached PTO-1449 was previously cited by or submitted to the USPTO in connection with U.S.S.N.: 08/000,000, to which the subject application claims the benefit

of the earlier filing date. As such, a copy of each is not included herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d).

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE
(check at least one box)

a. X Except as may be indicated below in (b), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language or were cited in an English language Search Report, a copy of which is attached hereto (concise explanation not required).

b. _____ A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

- _____ English translation for reference(s) _____.
- _____ English abstract for reference(s) _____.
- _____ English translation of search report/ official communication.
- _____ Copy of PCT/EPO Search Report.

c. _____ The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration:

- _____ A copy of EPO Search Report.
- _____ A copy of PCT Search Report.
- _____ A copy of Official Communication from the _____ Patent Office.
- _____ English translation of search report/ official communication.
- _____ Copy of _____.

Applicants also note that _____ which is identified in the enclosed _____ Search Report, was previously submitted in the IDS dated _____. Also, the _____ non-patent documents, which are identified in the _____ Search Report, were previously submitted in the Supplemental IDS dated _____.

FEES

IV. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)
(check one box)

a. _____ within three months of the filing date of a national application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (1)). No fee or certification is required.

b. _____ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (2)). No fee or certification is required.

c. _____ before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below, or, if no certification has